GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1598
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2016
Livelihood through Animal Husbandry
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether small and marginal farmers and landless agricultural labourers are earning a livelihood through animal husbandry;
(b) if so, the number of families which earn their livelihood through animal husbandry in the country and the average number of livestock held by these families, category-wise;
(c) the average per animal quantum of milk production of cows and buffaloes in the country; and
(d) the steps taken by the Government to promote animal husbandry among farmers to earn their livelihood?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(SHRI MOHANBHAI KUNDARIYA)
(a) Yes.
(b) National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) conducted a Situation Assessment Survey (SAS) of Agricultural Households during NSS 70th round (January 2013- December 2013) in the rural areas of the country with respect to the agricultural year July 2012- June 2013. As per the results obtained from the survey, out of the estimated 90.2 million agricultural households in the rural India, 71.9% reported to have engaged in livestock activity during the 365 days prior to the date of survey and 3.7% of the agricultural households reported livestock activity as their principal source of income. In the lowest size class of land possessed (<0.01 hectare) which also included landless agricultural households,91.8% of the agricultural households were estimated as engaged in livestock activity and 22.9% agricultural households reported it as their principal source of income. From the results of survey on Land and Livestock Holdings, conducted by NSSO during its 70th round (January 2013- December 2013) the category-wise estimated average number of major species of livestock owned per 100 households is given in the following table:

Average number of livestock owned per 100 households during 2013
category average number of livestock owned per 100 households
cattle &buffaloes 130.9
sheep & goat 63.4
pig 3.7
horse & pony 0.4
camel 0.7
Source: NSS Report No. 572: Livestock Ownership in India

(c) The average per animal production of milk of exotic/crossbred cows is 7.15 kg per day, indigenous/non-descript cows is 2.54 kg per day and buffaloes is 5.15 kg per day in the country during 2014-15.
(d) In order to complement and supplement the efforts made by the States/UTs to promote Animal Husbandry among farmers to earn their livelihood, Government of India has initiated following steps.
(i) National Programme for Bovine Breeding & Dairy Development (NPBBDD) aims to enhance milk production and productivity and strengthen infrastructure available in the country for milk procurement, processing and marketing.
(ii) 'RashtriyaGokul Mission' as a part of NPBBDD aiming at development and conservation of indigenous breeds.
(iii) National Dairy Plan-I in 18 major dairy States contributing 90% of the milk production of the country. The NDP-I aims to meeting the demand of milk through genetic upgradation of bovines and strengthening village based procurement system.
(iv) Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme to generate self-employment and provide dairy infrastructure.
(v) National Livestock Mission with the objective of sustainable development of livestock sector and also caters to enhancement of quality feed and fodder in the country as well as skill development, technology transfer and Extension to provide a platform to develop or adapt the knowledge in collaboration with farmers, researchers and extension workers.
(vi) Livestock Health & Disease Control schemes for prevention, control and containment of animal diseases.

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